BEFORE THE FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

In the Matter of)
)	
Amendment of Part 90 of the Commission Rules) WP Docket No. 07-100

COMMENTS OF THE Mundelein Fire Department

I. INTRODUCTION

The Mundelein Fire Department provide these comments regarding the above captioned matters addressed in the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, FCC 07-85, adopted by the Commission on May 9, 2007.

II. SUMMARY OF COMMENTS

III. DISCUSSION

Paragraph 4.

The Mundelein Fire Department, along with the fire service across Illinois, have used their assigned radio frequencies as the primary method of notification of fire and emergency medical services (EMS) personnel of emergencies requiring their assistance for many years. This system is utilized to alert response companies while on duty, as well as off-duty personnel for 'call-back' purposes, and automatic aid and mutual aid emergency companies. Restricting or eliminating the use of such frequencies for this purpose would be an insurmountable detriment to the health and welfare of countless citizens across the State of Illinois.

Paragraph 5.

The use of mutual aid frequencies to alert fire and EMS personnel of requests for assistance is of utmost importance as well. The statewide use of the Mutual Aid Box Alarm System (MABAS), where predetermined emergency responses are requested via a common radio frequency, has proved to be a model mutual aid system for the entire country. Should this frequency no longer be available for use, the system would no longer be able to function, and mutual aid would thereby suffer.

Paragraph 6.

The fire service across Illinois has used their assigned radio frequencies as the primary method of notification of fire and EMS personnel of emergencies requiring their assistance for many years. This system is utilized to alert response companies while on duty, as well

as off-duty personnel for 'call-back' purposes, and automatic aid and mutual aid emergency companies. Many of the fire departments utilizing this system depend on volunteer personnel and do not have the financial ability to implement a new, costly replacement system. This cost is not limited to rural/volunteer departments, as it will affect municipal departments of varying sizes and financial ability as well. Restricting or eliminating the use of such frequencies for this purpose would be an insurmountable detriment to the health and welfare of countless citizens across the State of Illinois.

IV. CONCLUSION

Paging on primary and mutual aid frequencies in Illinois is critically important for the safety and welfare of all Illinois citizens and should be maintained as an option on the voice channels. The elimination or restriction of paging on the either of the regularly utilized frequencies would severely impact this operation across the state of Illinois and other surrounding states.

Respectfully Submitted,

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